

REMARKS

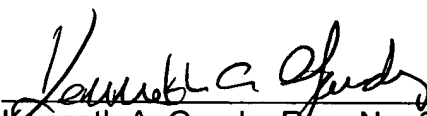
In response to the species requirement set forth in the Office Action, the applicant makes the following elections. For species 1a, applicant elects porcine based tissue submucosa. For species 1b, applicant elects tissue submucosa from alimentary tissue. For species 2, applicant elects tantalum. For species 3, applicant elects a device shape of a spherical shape. For species 4, applicant elects an injectable shape.

Applicant would like to respectfully traverse the extensive species restriction set forth in the Office Action. Applicant submits that searches pertaining to uses of tissue submucosas would encompass sufficient art groups to locate the relevant prior art to examine them together, in the various device and material shapes.

It is the applicant's understanding that the application will now be examined beginning with the elected species, and continuing with other species should invalidating prior art not be found. The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney if there are any questions about this submission or this case in general.

Respectfully Submitted,

By:


Kenneth A. Gandy, Reg. No. 33,386
Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty,
McNett & Henry LLP
Bank One Center/Tower
111 Monument Circle, Suite 3700
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-5137
(317) 634-3456